

PART 5.
WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

WAC 246-290-415 Operations and maintenance. (1) The purveyor shall ensure that the system is operated in accordance with the operations and maintenance program as established in the approved water system plan required under WAC 246-290-100 or the small water system management program under WAC 246-290-105.

(2) The operations and maintenance program shall include the following elements as applicable:

- (a) Water system management and personnel;
- (b) Operator certification;
- (c) Comprehensive monitoring plan for all contaminants under WAC 246-290-300;
- (d) Emergency response program;
- (e) Cross-connection control program; and
- (f) Maintenance of service reliability in accordance with WAC 246-290-420.

(3) The purveyor shall ensure that the system is operated in accordance with good operations procedures such as those available in texts, handbooks, and manuals available from the following sources:

(a) American Water Works Association (AWWA), 6666 West Quincy Avenue, Denver, Colorado 80235;

(b) American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), 345 East 47th Street, New York, New York 10017-2398;

(c) Ontario Ministry of the Environment, 135 St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario M4V1B5, Canada;

(d) The Chlorine Institute, 2001 "L" Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20036;

(e) California State University, 600 "J" Street, Sacramento, California 95819;

(f) Health Research Inc., Health Education Services Division, P.O. Box 7126, Albany, New York 12224; and

(g) Any other standards acceptable to the department.

(4) The purveyor shall not establish or maintain a bypass to divert water around any feature of a treatment process, except by written approval from the department.

(5) The purveyor shall take preventive or corrective action as directed by the department when results of an inspection conducted by the department indicate conditions which are currently or may become a detriment to system operation.

(6) The purveyor of a system using surface water or GWI shall meet operational requirements specified in Part 6 of this chapter.

(7) The purveyor shall have a certified operator if required under chapter 70.119 RCW and chapter 246-292 WAC.

(8) The purveyor shall at all times employ reasonable security measures to assure the raw water intake facilities, water treatment processes, water storage facilities, and the distribution system are protected from possible damage or compromise by unauthorized persons, animals, vegetation, or similar intruding agents. Such measures include elements such as locks on hatches, fencing of facilities, screening of reservoir vents or openings, and other recommendations as may be found in the current edition of the *Recommended Standards for Water Works, A Committee Report of the Great Lakes - Upper Mississippi River Board of State Public Health and Environmental Managers*.

(9) All purveyors utilizing ground water wells shall monitor well levels from ground level to the static water level on a seasonal basis, including low demand and high demand periods, to document the continuing availability of the source to meet projected, long-term demands. Purveyors shall maintain this data and provide it to the department upon request.

(10) All operation and maintenance practices shall conform to Part 5 of this chapter.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.02.050. 99-07-021, § 246-290-415, filed 3/9/99, effective 4/9/99.]

WAC 246-290-416 Sanitary surveys. (1) All public water systems shall submit to a sanitary survey conducted by the department, or the department's designee, based upon the following schedule:

(a) For community and nontransient noncommunity water systems, every five years, or more frequently as determined by the department. The sanitary surveys shall be consistent with the schedules presented in 40 CFR 141.21; and

(a) For transient noncommunity water systems, every five years unless the system uses only disinfected ground water and has an approved wellhead protection program, in which case the survey shall be every ten years. The sanitary surveys shall be conducted consistent with schedules presented in 40 CFR 141.21.

((c) For all community public water systems that use a surface water or GWI source, every three years. Surveys may be reduced to every five years upon written approval from the department.)

(2) All public water system purveyors shall be responsible for:

(a) Ensuring cooperation in scheduling sanitary surveys with the department, or its designee; and
(b) Ensuring the unrestricted availability of all facilities and records at the time of the sanitary survey.

((3) All public water systems that use a surface water or GWI source shall:

(a) Correct deficiencies identified by the department as significant in a written sanitary survey report, and that may or will endanger the health of water system users.

(b) Within forty-five days following receipt of a sanitary survey report that identifies significant deficiencies requiring correction, identify in writing to the department how the system will correct the deficiencies and propose a schedule to complete the corrections. The department may modify the schedule if necessary to protect the health of water system users.)

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.02.050. 99-07-021, § 246-290-416, filed 3/9/99, effective 4/9/99.]

WAC 246-290-420 Reliability and emergency response. (1) All public water systems shall provide an adequate quantity and quality of water in a reliable manner at all times consistent with the requirements of this chapter.

(2) During normal operating conditions, for both average and peak demand periods, water pressure at the consumer's service meter, or property line if a meter is not used, shall be maintained at the approved design pressure, but in no case be less than 20 psi (140 kPa). Water quality shall be maintained as required in Part 4 and Part 6 of this chapter.

(3) When fire flow is required, 20 psi (140 kPa) at the operating hydrant and at least positive pressure shall be maintained throughout the system under fire flow conditions.

(4) The purveyor shall address abnormal operating conditions, such as those associated with fires, floods, unscheduled power outages, facility failures, and system maintenance, by using measures consistent with applicable regulations and industry standards to ensure the system is constructed, maintained, and operated to protect against the risk of contamination by cross-connections as a result of loss of system pressure.

(5) For operations during abnormal conditions, the purveyor shall establish the level of reliability, in accordance with consumer expectations, to ensure prevention of loss of pressure or prompt restoration of pressure when a loss of pressure has occurred. Consumer expectations may be established by a simple majority of the affected consumers within the system's service area, or within specific, definable pressure zones when different levels of service may be encountered. A simple majority of consumers can be associated with either a vote of the consumers for privately owned and operated systems, or of the system's governing body, such as council, board, or commission, for publicly governed systems. Consumer expectations shall not be used by a purveyor to justify a failure to address routine or repeated loss of pressure within the system, or within specific, definable pressure zones, because of the purveyor's failure to properly construct, maintain, or operate the system. The level of reliability established under this subsection, and measures for achieving such reliability, shall be identified in the operations and maintenance program and incorporated into the water system design, and shall be approved by the department. The level of reliability shall not affect the purveyor's obligations under subsections (1) through (4) of this section.

(6) The purveyor shall implement all appropriate measures necessary to meet the identified level of reliability for normal and abnormal operating conditions. Procedures for system operation during normal and abnormal operating conditions shall be documented in an operations and maintenance and emergency response program in accordance with WAC 246-290-415 and shall be implemented in a timely and reasonable manner.

(7) If a purveyor is unable to satisfactorily address departmental concerns or consumer complaints regarding the level of reliability associated with normal or abnormal operating conditions, the purveyor may be required to prepare a project report pursuant to WAC 246-290-110 that addresses an evaluation of the problem, impacts on affected consumers, and recommended corrective action. Unless the department determines that public health protection requires otherwise, improvements related to abnormal operating conditions described under subsection (5) of this section will be required commensurate with the established level of reliability for abnormal operating conditions.

(8) Restrictions on designed, or historically documented, normal water uses shall not be allowed except under the following conditions:

(a) Whenever there is clear evidence that, unless limitations are imposed, water use at normal levels will lead to a relatively rapid depletion of water source reserves, such as in drought situations or when significant facility failures occur;

(b) Whenever a water system observes that demands for water exceed the available supply, as a result of such events as miscalculated planning, inattentive operation, or unforeseen problems with sources and that limitations would be necessary to insure basic levels of service while additional sources were being sought or developed, or the situation was being otherwise remedied; or

(c) Whenever the water system institutes restrictions as part of a water conservation program which has been accepted by the system consumers through appropriate public decision-making processes within existing governance mechanisms, or has been mandated under state regulatory authority.

(9) A purveyor shall provide the department with the current names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the owners, operators, and emergency contact persons for the system, including any changes to this information. The purveyor shall also maintain twenty-four-hour phone availability and shall respond to consumer concerns and service complaints in a timely manner.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.02.050. 99-07-021, § 246-290-420, filed 3/9/99, effective 4/9/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 93-08-011 (Order 352B), § 246-290-420, filed 3/25/93, effective 4/25/93; 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-290-420, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: P.L. 99-339. 89-21-020 (Order 336), § 248-54-201, filed 10/10/89, effective 11/10/89. Statutory Authority: RCW 34.04.045. 88-05-057 (Order 307), § 248-54-201, filed 2/17/88.]

WAC 246-290-451 Disinfection of drinking water. (1) No portion of a public water system containing potable water shall be put into service, nor shall service be resumed until the facility has been effectively disinfected.

(a) In cases of new construction, drinking water shall not be furnished to the consumer until satisfactory bacteriological samples have been analyzed by a laboratory certified by the state; and

(b) In cases of existing water mains, when the integrity of the main is lost resulting in a significant loss of pressure that places the main at risk to cross-connection contamination, the purveyor shall use standard industry practices such as flushing, disinfection, and/or bacteriological sampling to ensure adequate and safe water quality prior to the return of the line to service;

(c) If a cross-connection is confirmed, the purveyor shall satisfy the reporting requirements as described under WAC 246-290-490(8).

(2) The procedure used for disinfection shall conform to standards published by the American Water Works Association, or other industry standards acceptable to the department.

(3) The purveyor of a system using ground water and required to disinfect, shall meet the following disinfection requirements, unless otherwise directed by the department:

(a) Minimum contact time at a point at or before the first consumer of:

(i) Thirty minutes if 0.2 mg/L free chlorine residual is maintained;

(ii) Ten minutes if 0.6 mg/L free chlorine residual is maintained; or

(iii) Any combination of free chlorine residual concentration (C), measured in mg/L, and contact time (T), measured in minutes, that results in a CT product (C X T) of greater than or equal to six; or

(iv) Contact time (T) for surface water or GWI sources shall be determined in accordance with WAC 246-290-636.

(b) Detectable residual disinfectant concentration in all active parts of the distribution system, measured as total chlorine, free chlorine, combined chlorine, or chlorine dioxide;

(c) Water in the distribution system with an HPC level less than or equal to 500 organisms/mL is considered to have a detectable residual disinfectant concentration.

(4) The department may require the purveyor to provide longer contact times, higher chlorine residuals, or additional treatment to protect the health of consumers served by the public water system.

(5) The purveyor of a system using surface water or GWI shall meet disinfection requirements specified in Part 6 of this chapter.

(6) The purveyor of a system (~~((providing ground water disinfection))~~) (adding a chemical disinfectant) shall monitor residual disinfectant concentration at representative points in the system on a daily basis, and at the same time and location of routine and repeat coliform sample collection. Frequency of disinfection residual monitoring may be reduced upon written request to the department if it can be shown that disinfection residuals can be maintained on a reliable basis without the provision of daily monitoring (, but shall be no less frequent than specified in WAC 246-290-300(3)(a)(i).

(7) The analyses shall be conducted in accordance with "standard methods." To assure adequate monitoring of chlorine residual, the department may require the use of continuous chlorine residual analyzers and recorders.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.02.050. 99-07-021, § 246-290-451, filed 3/9/99, effective 4/9/99.]

WAC 246-290-455 Operation of chemical contaminant treatment facilities. (1) Purveyors shall ensure finished drinking water from chemical contaminant treatment facilities complies with the minimum water quality standards established in WAC 246-290-310. This section does not apply to facilities used only for corrosion control treatment purposes.

(2) The purveyor shall collect finished drinking water samples at a point directly downstream of the treatment system prior to the first consumer on a monthly basis.

(a) Finished drinking water samples from treatment systems utilized for removal of contaminants with established primary MCLs shall be submitted to a certified laboratory for analysis of the specific contaminant(s) of concern.

(b) Finished drinking water samples from treatment systems utilized for removal of contaminants with established secondary MCLs shall be submitted to a certified laboratory for analysis or analyzed for the specific contaminant(s) of concern by the purveyor through department-approved on-site methods.

(c) Additional finished drinking water monitoring may be required by the department based on the complexity or size of the water system.

(3) If primary MCLs following treatment are exceeded in four or more months of a consecutive twelve-month compliance period, the purveyor shall submit a project report to the department that addresses the failure to maintain compliance. The project report shall include methods and schedules to correct the treatment deficiency and/or indicate schedules for implementing an alternate source of supply or an effective treatment technology.

(4) If secondary MCLs following treatment are exceeded in four or more months of a consecutive twelve-month compliance period, the purveyor shall take action per WAC 246-290-320 (3)(d).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.02.050. 99-07-021, § 246-290-455, filed 3/9/99, effective 4/9/99.]

WAC 246-290-460 Fluoridation of drinking water. (1) Purveyors shall obtain written department approval of fluoridation treatment facilities before placing them in service.

(2) Where fluoridation is practiced, purveyors shall maintain fluoride concentrations in the range 0.8 through 1.3 mg/L throughout the distribution system.

(3) Where fluoridation is practiced, purveyors shall take the following actions to ensure that concentrations remain at optimal levels and that fluoridation facilities and monitoring equipment are operating properly:

(a) Daily monitoring.

(i) Take daily monitoring samples for each point of fluoride addition and analyze the fluoride concentration. Samples must be taken downstream from each fluoride injection point at the first sample tap where adequate mixing has occurred.

(ii) Record the results of daily analyses in a monthly report format acceptable to the department. A report must be made for each point of fluoride addition.

(iii) Submit monthly monitoring reports to the department within the first ten days of the month following the month in which the samples were collected.

(b) Monthly split sampling.

(i) Take a monthly split sample at the same location where routine daily monitoring samples are taken. A monthly split sample must be taken for each point of fluoride addition.

(ii) Analyze a portion of the sample and record the results on the lab sample submittal form and on the monthly report form.

(iii) Forward the remainder of the sample, along with the completed sample form to the state public health laboratory, or other state-certified laboratory, for fluoride analysis.

(iv) If a split sample is found by the certified lab to be:

(A) Not within the range of 0.8 to 1.3 mg/l, the purveyor's fluoridation process shall be considered out of compliance.

(B) Differing by more than 0.30 mg/l from the purveyor's analytical result, the purveyor's fluoride testing shall be considered out of control.

(4) Purveyors shall conduct analyses prescribed in subsection (3) of this section in accordance with procedures listed in the most recent edition of *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater*.

(5) The purveyor may be required by the department to increase the frequency, and/or change the location of sampling prescribed in subsection (3) of this section to ensure the adequacy and consistency of fluoridation.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.02.050. 99-07-021, § 246-290-460, filed 3/9/99, effective 4/9/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-290-460, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 34.04.045. 88-05-057 (Order 307), § 248-54-235, filed 2/17/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 83-19-002 (Order 266), § 248-54-235, filed 9/8/83.]

WAC 246-290-470 Uncovered distribution reservoirs. (1) Existing uncovered distribution reservoirs shall be operated based on a plan of operation approved by the department.

(2) Purveyors with uncovered distribution reservoirs shall have a department-approved plan and schedule to cover all reservoirs on file with the department.

(3) The plan of operation shall address the following elements as a minimum:

(a) Assurance of the means and levels associated with the provision of continuous disinfection at all times water is being delivered to the public, including the reliability provisions outlined in WAC 246-290-420;

(b) Description of the means for control of debris, algal, or other aquatic organism growths, surface water runoff, and atmospheric or avian-borne airborne contamination;

(c) Procedures for ensuring that construction will not lead to reservoir contamination;

(d) Provisions for ensuring adequate security measures are provided; and

(e) Any required, or department-directed, monitoring and reporting.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.02.050. 99-07-021, § 246-290-470, filed 3/9/99, effective 4/9/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 93-08-011 (Order 352B), § 246-290-470, filed 3/25/93, effective 4/25/93; 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-290-470, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91; 83-19-002 (Order 266), § 248-54-245, filed 9/8/83.]

WAC 246-290-480 Recordkeeping and reporting. (1) Records. The purveyor shall keep the following records of operation and water quality analyses:

(a) Bacteriological and turbidity analysis results shall be kept for five years. Chemical analysis results shall be kept for as long as the system is in operation. Records of daily source meter readings shall be kept for ten years. Other records of operation and analyses required by the department shall be kept for three years. All records shall bear the signature of the operator in responsible charge of the water system or his or her representative. Systems shall keep these records available for inspection by the department and shall send the records to the department if requested. Actual laboratory reports may be kept or data may be transferred to tabular summaries, provided the following information is included:

- (i) The date, place, and time of sampling, and the name of the person collecting the sample;
- (ii) Identification of the sample type (routine distribution system sample, repeat sample, source or finished water sample, or other special purpose sample);
- (iii) Date of analysis;
- (iv) Laboratory and person responsible for performing analysis;
- (v) The analytical method used; and
- (vi) The results of the analysis.

(b) Records of action taken by the system to correct violations of primary drinking water standards. For each violation, records of actions taken to correct the violation, and copies of public notifications shall be kept for no less than three years after the last corrective action taken.

(c) Copies of any written reports, summaries, or communications relating to sanitary surveys or SPIs of the system conducted by system personnel, by a consultant or by any local, state, or federal agency, shall be kept for ten years after completion of the sanitary survey or SPI involved.

(d) Copies of project reports, construction documents and related drawings, inspection reports and approvals shall be kept for the life of the facility.

(e) Where applicable, daily records of the following shall be kept for a minimum of three years:

- (i) Chlorine residual;
- (ii) Fluoride level;
- (iii) Water treatment plant performance including, but not limited to:
 - (A) Type of chemicals used and quantity;
 - (B) Amount of water treated; and
 - (C) Results of analyses.
- (iv) Turbidity;
- (v) Source meter readings; and
- (vi) Other information as specified by the department.

(f) The purveyor shall retain copies of public notices made under Subpart Q, and Part 7, Subpart A of this chapter and certifications made to the department under 40 CFR 141.31(d) for a period of at least three years after issuance.)

(2) Reporting.

(a) Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, the purveyor shall report to the department within forty-eight hours (:

~~(i) The failure to comply with the primary standards or treatment technique requirements under this chapter;~~
~~(ii) The failure to comply with the monitoring requirements under this chapter; and~~
~~(iii) The violation of a primary MCL.))~~ (the failure to comply with any national primary drinking water regulation (including failure to comply with any monitoring requirements) as set forth in this chapter. For violations assigned to Tier 1 in WAC 246-290-71001, the department must be notified as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours after the violation is known.)

(b) The purveyor shall submit to the department reports required by this chapter, including tests, measurements, and analytic reports. Monthly reports are due before the tenth day of the following month, unless otherwise specified in this chapter.

(c) The purveyor shall submit to the department copies of any written summaries or communications relating to the status of monitoring waivers during each monitoring cycle or as directed by the department.

(d) Source meter readings shall be made available to the department.

(e) Water facilities inventory form (WFI).

- (i) Purveyors of **community** and **NTNC** systems shall submit an annual WFI update to the department;
- (ii) Purveyors of **TNC** systems shall submit an updated WFI to the department as requested;
- (iii) Purveyors shall submit an updated WFI to the department within thirty days of any change in name, category, ownership, or responsibility for management of the water system, or addition of source or storage facilities; and
- (iv) At a minimum the completed WFI shall provide the current names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the owners, operators, and emergency contact persons for the system.
- (v) Purveyors shall provide in the WFI total annual water production and use, including:
 - (i) Total annual water production for each source;
 - (ii) Monthly and annual totals for water purchased from or sold to other purveyors; and
 - (iii) For purveyors with more than one thousand service connections, monthly and annual totals for purveyor consumer classes. Monthly data may be estimated if the water system bills less frequently than monthly.
- (f) Bacteriological.
 - (i) The purveyor shall notify the department of the presence of:
 - (A) Coliform in a sample, within ten days of notification by the laboratory; and
 - (B) Fecal coliform or E. coli in a sample, by the end of the business day in which the purveyor is notified by the laboratory. If the purveyor is notified of the results after normal close of business, then the purveyor shall notify the department before the end of the next business day.
- ~~((iii) When a coliform MCL violation is determined, the purveyor shall:~~
 - ~~—— (A) Notify the department within twenty-four hours of determining acute coliform MCL violations; and~~
 - ~~—— (B) Notify the department before the end of the next business day when a nonacute coliform MCL is determined.))~~
- (g) Systems monitoring for unregulated ~~((VOCs))~~ (contaminants) in accordance with WAC 246-290-300 ~~((8(b)))~~ ((9)), shall send a copy of the results of such monitoring ~~((and any public notice))~~ to the department within thirty days of receipt of analytical results.
- ((h) Systems monitoring for Disinfection Byproducts in accordance with WAC 246-290-300(7) shall report information to the department as specified in 40 CFR 141.134.
- ((i) Systems monitoring for Disinfectant Residuals in accordance with WAC 246-290-300(7)(c)(ii)(A) shall report information to the department as specified in subsection (2)(a) of this section, and 40 CFR 141.134(c).
- ((j) Systems required to monitor for disinfection byproduct precursor removal in accordance with WAC 246-290-300(7)(d)(ii) shall report information to the department as specified in 40 CFR 141.134(d).
- ((k) Systems shall submit to the department, in accordance with 40 CFR 141.31(d), a certification that the system has complied with the public notification regulations (Part 7, Subpart A of this chapter) when a public notification is required. Along with the certification, the system shall submit a representative copy of each type of notice.)

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.02.050. 99-07-021, § 246-290-480, filed 3/9/99, effective 4/9/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 94-14-001, § 246-290-480, filed 6/22/94, effective 7/23/94; 93-08-011 (Order 352B), § 246-290-480, filed 3/25/93, effective 4/25/93; 92-04-070 (Order 241B), § 246-290-480, filed 2/4/92, effective 3/6/92; 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-290-480, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: P.L. 99-339. 89-21-020 (Order 336), § 248-54-265, filed 10/10/89, effective 11/10/89. Statutory Authority: RCW 34.04.045. 88-05-057 (Order 307), § 248-54-265, filed 2/17/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 83-19-002 (Order 266), § 248-54-265, filed 9/8/83.]

WAC 246-290-490 Cross-connection control. (1) Applicability, purpose, and responsibility.

- (a) All community water systems shall comply with the cross-connection control requirements specified in this section.
- (b) All noncommunity water systems shall apply the principles and provisions of this section, including subsection (4)(b) of this section, as applicable to protect the public water system from contamination via cross-connections. Noncommunity systems that comply with subsection (4)(b) of this

section and the provisions of WAC 51-46-0603 of the UPC (which addresses the installation of backflow preventers at points of water use within the potable water system) shall be considered in compliance with the requirements of this section.

(c) The purpose of the purveyor's cross-connection control program shall be to protect the public water system, as defined in WAC 246-290-010, from contamination via cross-connections.

(d) The purveyor's responsibility for cross-connection control shall begin at the water supply source, include all the public water treatment, storage, and distribution facilities, and end at the point of delivery to the consumer's water system, which begins at the downstream end of the service connection or water meter located on the public right-of-way or utility-held easement.

(e) Under the provisions of this section, purveyors are not responsible for eliminating or controlling cross-connections within the consumer's water system. Under chapter 19.27 RCW, the responsibility for cross-connection control within the consumer's water system, i.e., within the property lines of the consumer's premises, falls under the jurisdiction of the local administrative authority.

(2) General program requirements.

(a) The purveyor shall develop and implement a cross-connection control program that meets the requirements of this section, but may establish a more stringent program through local ordinances, resolutions, codes, bylaws, or operating rules.

(b) Purveyors shall ensure that good engineering and public health protection practices are used in the development and implementation of cross-connection control programs. Department publications and the most recently published editions of references, such as, but not limited to, those listed below, may be used as guidance for cross-connection program development and implementation:

(i) *Manual of Cross-Connection Control* published by the Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research, University of Southern California (USC Manual); or

(ii) *Cross-Connection Control Manual, Accepted Procedure and Practice* published by the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Water Works Association (PNWS-AWWA Manual).

(c) The purveyor may implement the cross-connection control program, or any portion thereof, directly or by means of a contract with another agency or party acceptable to the department.

(d) The purveyor shall coordinate with the local administrative authority in all matters concerning cross-connection control. The purveyor shall document and describe such coordination, including delineation of responsibilities, in the written cross-connection control program required in (e) of this subsection.

(e) The purveyor shall include a written description of the cross-connection control program in the water system plan required under WAC 246-290-100 or the small water system management program required under WAC 246-290-105. The cross-connection control program shall include the minimum program elements described in subsection (3) of this section.

(f) The purveyor shall ensure that cross-connections between the distribution system and a consumer's water system are eliminated or controlled by the installation of an approved backflow preventer commensurate with the degree of hazard. This can be accomplished by implementation of a cross-connection program that relies on:

(i) Premises isolation as defined in WAC 246-290-010; or

(ii) Premises isolation and in-premises protection as defined in WAC 246-290-010.

(g) Purveyors with cross-connection control programs that rely both on premises isolation and in-premises protection:

(i) Shall comply with the premises isolation requirements specified in subsection (4)(b) of this section; and

(ii) May reduce premises isolation requirements and rely on in-premises protection for premises other than the type not addressed in subsection (4)(b) of this section, if the conditions in (h) of this subsection are met.

(h) Purveyors may rely on in-premises protection only when the following conditions are met:

(i) The in-premises backflow preventers provide a level of protection commensurate with the purveyor's assessed degree of hazard;

(ii) Backflow preventers which provide the in-premises backflow protection meet the definition of approved backflow preventers as described in WAC 246-290-010;

(iii) The approved backflow preventers are installed, inspected, tested (if applicable), maintained, and repaired in accordance with subsections (6) and (7) of this section;

(iv) Records of such backflow preventers are maintained in accordance with subsections (3)(j) and (8) of this section; and

(v) The purveyor has reasonable access to the consumer's premises to conduct an initial hazard evaluation and periodic reevaluations to determine whether the in-premises protection is adequate to protect the purveyor's distribution system.

(i) The purveyor shall take appropriate corrective action within its authority if:

(i) A cross-connection exists that is not controlled commensurate to the degree of hazard assessed by the purveyor; or

(ii) A consumer fails to comply with the purveyor's requirements regarding the installation, inspection, testing, maintenance or repair of approved backflow preventers required by this chapter.

(j) The purveyor's corrective action may include, but is not limited to:

(i) Denying or discontinuing water service to a consumer's premises until the cross-connection hazard is eliminated or controlled to the satisfaction of the purveyor;

(ii) Requiring the consumer to install an approved backflow preventer for premises isolation commensurate with the degree of hazard; or

(iii) The purveyor installing an approved backflow preventer for premises isolation commensurate with the degree of hazard.

(k) Purveyors denying or discontinuing water service to a consumer's premises for one or more of the reasons listed in (i) of this subsection shall notify the local administrative authority prior to taking such action except in the event of an emergency.

(l) The purveyor shall prohibit the intentional return of used water to the purveyor's distribution system. Such water would include, but is not limited to, water used for heating, cooling, or other purposes within the consumer's water system.

(3) Minimum elements of a cross-connection control program.

(a) To be acceptable to the department, the purveyor's cross-connection control program shall include the minimum elements identified in this subsection.

(b) Element 1: The purveyor shall adopt a local ordinance, resolution, code, bylaw, or other written legal instrument that:

(i) Establishes the purveyor's legal authority to implement a cross-connection control program;

(ii) Describes the operating policies and technical provisions of the purveyor's cross-connection control program; and

(iii) Describes the corrective actions used to ensure that consumers comply with the purveyor's cross-connection control requirements.

(c) Element 2: The purveyor shall develop and implement procedures and schedules for evaluating new and existing service connections to assess the degree of hazard posed by the consumer's premises to the purveyor's distribution system and notifying the consumer within a reasonable time frame of the hazard evaluation results. At a minimum, the program shall meet the following:

(i) For new connections made on or after the effective date of these regulations, procedures shall ensure that an initial evaluation is conducted before service is provided;

(ii) For existing connections made prior to the effective date of these regulations, procedures shall ensure that an initial evaluation is conducted in accordance with a schedule acceptable to the department; and

(iii) For all service connections, once an initial evaluation has been conducted, procedures shall ensure that periodic reevaluations are conducted in accordance with a schedule acceptable to the department and whenever there is a change in the use of the premises.

(d) Element 3: The purveyor shall develop and implement procedures and schedules for ensuring that:

(i) Cross-connections are eliminated whenever possible;

(ii) When cross-connections cannot be eliminated, they are controlled by installation of approved backflow preventers commensurate with the degree of hazard; and

(iii) Approved backflow preventers are installed in accordance with the requirements of subsection (6) of this section.

(e) Element 4: The purveyor shall ensure that personnel, including at least one person certified as a CCS, are provided to develop and implement the cross-connection control program.

(f) Element 5: The purveyor shall develop and implement procedures to ensure that approved backflow preventers are inspected and/or tested (as applicable) in accordance with subsection (7) of this section.

(g) Element 6: The purveyor shall develop and implement a backflow prevention assembly testing quality control assurance program, including, but not limited to, documentation of tester certification and test kit calibration, test report contents, and time frames for submitting completed test reports.

(h) Element 7: The purveyor shall develop and implement (when appropriate) procedures for responding to backflow incidents.

(i) Element 8: The purveyor shall include information on cross-connection control in the purveyor's existing program for educating consumers about water system operation. Such a program may include periodic bill inserts, public service announcements, pamphlet distribution, notification of new consumers and consumer confidence reports.

(j) Element 9: The purveyor shall develop and maintain cross-connection control records including, but not limited to, the following:

(i) A master list of service connections and/or consumer's premises where the purveyor relies upon approved backflow preventers to protect the public water system from contamination, the assessed hazard level of each, and the required backflow preventer(s);

(ii) Inventory information on:

(A) Approved air gaps installed in lieu of approved assemblies including exact air gap location, assessed degree of hazard, installation date, history of inspections, inspection results, and person conducting inspections;

(B) Approved backflow assemblies including exact assembly location, assembly description (type, manufacturer, model, size, and serial number), assessed degree of hazard, installation date, history of inspections, tests and repairs, test results, and person performing tests; and

(C) Approved AVBs used for irrigation system applications including location, description (manufacturer, model, and size), installation date, history of inspection(s), and person performing inspection(s).

(iii) Cross-connection program summary reports and backflow incident reports required under subsection (8) of this section.

(k) Element 10: Purveyors who distribute and/or have facilities that receive reclaimed water within their water service area shall meet any additional cross-connection control requirements imposed by the department under a permit issued in accordance with chapter 90.46 RCW.

(4) Approved backflow preventer selection.

(a) The purveyor shall ensure that a CCS:

(i) Assesses the degree of hazard posed by the consumer's water system upon the purveyor's distribution system; and

(ii) Determines the appropriate method of backflow protection for premises isolation in accordance with Table 8.

TABLE 8
APPROPRIATE METHODS OF BACKFLOW PROTECTION FOR
PREMISES ISOLATION

Degree of Hazard	Application Condition	Appropriate Approved Backflow Preventer
High health cross-connection hazard	Backsiphonage or backpressure backflow	AG, RPBA, or RPDA
Low health cross-connection hazard	Backsiphonage or backpressure backflow	AG, RPBA, RPDA, DCVA, or DCDA

(b) Premises isolation requirements.

(i) For service connections with remises posing a high health cross-connection hazard including, but not limited to, those premises listed in Table 9, the purveyor shall ensure that an approved air gap or RPBA is installed for premises isolation.

(ii) If the purveyor's CCS determines that no hazard exists for a connection serving premises of the type listed in Table 9, the requirements of (b)(i) of this subsection do not apply.

(iii) The purveyor shall document, on a case-by-case basis, the reasons for not applying the requirements of (b)(i) of this subsection to a connection serving premises of the type listed in Table 9 and include such documentation in the cross-connection control program summary report required in subsection (8) of this section.

TABLE 9
HIGH HEALTH CROSS-CONNECTION HAZARD PREMISES
REQUIRING PREMISES ISOLATION BY AG OR RPBA

Agricultural (farms and dairies)

Beverage bottling plants

Car washes

Chemical plants

Commercial laundries and dry cleaners

Premises where both reclaimed water and potable water are provided

Film processing facilities

Food processing plants

Hospitals, medical centers, nursing homes, veterinary, medical and dental clinics, and blood plasma centers

Premises with separate irrigation systems using the purveyor's water supply and with chemical addition⁺

Laboratories

Metal plating industries

Mortuaries

Petroleum processing or storage plants

Piers and docks

Radioactive material processing plants or nuclear reactors^{*}

Survey access denied or restricted

Wastewater lift stations and pumping stations

Wastewater treatment plants^{*}

Premises with an unapproved auxiliary water supply interconnected with the potable water supply

- .+ For example, parks, playgrounds, golf courses, cemeteries, estates, etc.
- * RPBA for connections serving these premises are acceptable only when used in combination with an in-plant approved air gap; otherwise, the purveyor shall require an approved air gap at the service connection.

(c) Backflow protection for single-family residences.

(i) For single-family residential service connections, the purveyor shall comply with the requirements of (b) of this subsection when applicable.

(ii) If the requirements of (b) of this subsection do not apply and the requirements specified in subsection (2)(h) of this section are met, the purveyor may rely on backflow protection provided at the point of hazard in accordance with WAC 51-46-0603 of the UPC for hazards such as, but not limited to:

- (A) Irrigation systems;
- (B) Swimming pools or spas;
- (C) Ponds; and
- (D) Boilers.

For example, the purveyor may accept an approved AVB on a residential irrigation system, if the AVB is properly installed in accordance with the UPC.

(d) Backflow protection for fire protection systems.

(i) Backflow protection is not required for residential flow-through or combination fire protection systems constructed of potable water piping and materials.

(ii) For service connections with fire protection systems other than flow-through or combination systems, the purveyor shall ensure that backflow protection consistent with WAC 51-46-0603 of the UPC is installed. The UPC requires minimum protection as follows:

(A) An RPBA or RPDA for fire protection systems with chemical addition or using unapproved auxiliary water supply; and

(B) A DCVA or DCDA for all other fire protection systems.

(iii) For new connections made on or after the effective date of these regulations, the purveyor shall ensure that backflow protection is installed before water service is provided.

(iv) For existing fire protection systems:

(A) With chemical addition or using unapproved auxiliary supplies, the purveyor shall ensure that backflow protection is installed within ninety days of the purveyor notifying the consumer of the high health cross-connection hazard or in accordance with an alternate schedule acceptable to the purveyor.

(B) Without chemical addition, without on-site storage, and using only the purveyor's water (i.e., no unapproved auxiliary supplies on or available to the premises), the purveyor shall ensure that backflow protection is installed in accordance with a schedule acceptable to the purveyor or at an earlier date if required by the agency administering the Uniform Building Code as adopted under chapter 19.27 RCW.

(C) When establishing backflow protection retrofitting schedules for fire protection systems that have the characteristics listed in (d)(iv)(B) of this subsection, the purveyor may consider factors such as, but not limited to, impacts of assembly installation on sprinkler performance, costs of retrofitting, and difficulty of assembly installation.

(e) Purveyors may require backflow preventers commensurate with the degree of hazard determined by the purveyor to be installed for premises isolation for connections serving premises that have characteristics such as, but not limited to, the following:

(i) Complex plumbing arrangements or plumbing potentially subject to frequent changes that make it impracticable to assess whether cross-connection hazards exist;

(ii) A repeated history of cross-connections being established or reestablished; or

(iii) Cross-connection hazards are unavoidable or not correctable, such as, but not limited to, tall buildings.

(5) Approved backflow preventers.

(a) The purveyor shall ensure that all backflow prevention assemblies relied upon by the purveyor are models included on the current list of backflow prevention assemblies approved for

use in Washington state. The current approved assemblies list is available from the department upon request.

(b) The purveyor may rely on testable backflow prevention assemblies that are not currently approved by the department, if the assemblies:

- (i) Were included on the department and/or USC list of approved backflow prevention assemblies at the time of installation;
- (ii) Have been properly maintained;
- (iii) Are commensurate with the purveyor's assessed degree of hazard; and
- (iv) Have been inspected and tested at least annually and have successfully passed the annual tests.

(c) The purveyor shall ensure that an unlisted backflow prevention assembly is replaced by an approved assembly commensurate with the degree of hazard, when the unlisted assembly:

- (i) Does not meet the conditions specified in (b)(i) through (iv) of this subsection;
 - (ii) Is moved; or
 - (iii) Cannot be repaired using spare parts from the original manufacturer.
- (d) The purveyor shall ensure that AVBs meet the definition of approved atmospheric vacuum breakers as described in WAC 246-290-010.

(6) Approved backflow preventer installation.

(a) The purveyor shall ensure that approved backflow preventers are installed in the orientation for which they are approved (if applicable).

(b) The purveyor shall ensure that approved backflow preventers are installed in a manner that:

(i) Facilitates their proper operation, maintenance, inspection, and/or in-line testing (as applicable) using standard installation procedures acceptable to the department such as those in the USC Manual or PNWS-AWWA Manual;

(ii) Ensures that the assembly will not become submerged due to weather-related conditions such as flooding; and

(iii) Ensures compliance with all applicable safety regulations.

(c) The purveyor shall ensure that approved backflow assemblies for premises isolation are installed at a location adjacent to the meter or property line or an alternate location acceptable to the purveyor.

(d) When premises isolation assemblies are installed at an alternate location acceptable to the purveyor, the purveyor shall ensure that there are no connections between the point of delivery from the public water system and the approved backflow assembly, unless the installation of such a connection meets the purveyor's cross-connection control requirements and is specifically approved by the purveyor.

(e) The purveyor shall ensure that approved backflow preventers are installed in accordance with the following time frames:

(i) For new connections made on or after the effective date of these regulations, the following conditions shall be met before service is provided:

(A) The provisions of subsection (3)(d)(ii) of this section; and

(B) Satisfactory completion of a test by a BAT in accordance with subsection (7) of this section.

(ii) For existing connections where the purveyor identifies a high health cross-connection hazard, the provisions of (3)(d)(ii) of this section shall be met:

(A) Within ninety days of the purveyor notifying the consumer of the high health cross-connection hazard; or

(B) In accordance with an alternate schedule acceptable to the purveyor.

(iii) For existing connections where the purveyor identifies a low health cross-connection hazard, the provisions of subsection (3)(d)(ii) of this section shall be met in accordance with a schedule acceptable to the purveyor.

(f) The purveyor shall ensure that bypass piping installed around any approved backflow preventer is equipped with an approved backflow preventer that:

(i) Affords at least the same level of protection as the approved backflow preventer that is being bypassed; and

(ii) Complies with all applicable requirements of this section.

- (7) Approved backflow preventer inspection and testing.
- (a) The purveyor shall ensure that:
- (i) A CCS inspects backflow preventer installations to ensure that protection is provided commensurate with the assessed degree of hazard;
- (ii) Either a BAT or CCS inspects:
- (A) Air gaps installed in lieu of approved backflow prevention assemblies for compliance with the approved air gap definition; and
- (B) Backflow prevention assemblies for correct installation and approval status.
- (iii) A BAT tests approved backflow prevention assemblies for proper operation.
- (b) The purveyor shall ensure that inspections and/or tests of approved air gaps and approved backflow assemblies are conducted:
- (i) At the time of installation;
- (ii) Annually after installation, or more frequently, if required by the purveyor for connections serving premises or systems that pose a high health cross-connection hazard or for assemblies that repeatedly fail;
- (iii) After a backflow incident; and
- (iv) After an assembly is repaired, reinstalled, or relocated or an air gap is replumbed.
- (c) The purveyor shall ensure that inspections of AVBs installed on irrigation systems are conducted:
- (i) At the time of installation;
- (ii) After a backflow incident; and
- (iii) After repair, reinstallation, or relocation.
- (d) The purveyor shall ensure that approved backflow prevention assemblies are tested using procedures acceptable to the department, such as those specified in the most recently published edition of the USC Manual. When circumstances, such as, but not limited to, configuration or location of the assembly, preclude the use of USC test procedures, the purveyor may allow, on a case-by-case basis, the use of alternate (non-USC) test procedures acceptable to the department.
- (e) The purveyor shall ensure that results of backflow prevention assembly inspections and tests are documented and reported in a manner acceptable to the purveyor.
- (f) The purveyor shall ensure that an approved backflow prevention assembly or AVB, whenever found to be improperly installed, defective, not commensurate with the degree of hazard, or failing a test (if applicable) is properly reinstalled, repaired, overhauled, or replaced.
- (g) The purveyor shall ensure that an approved air gap, whenever found to be altered or improperly installed, is properly replumbed or, if commensurate with the degree of hazard, is replaced by an approved RPBA.
- (8) Recordkeeping and reporting.
- (a) Purveyors shall keep cross-connection control records for the following time frames:
- (i) Records pertaining to the master list of service connections and/or consumer's premises required in subsection (3)(j)(i) of this section shall be kept as long as the premises pose a cross-connection hazard to the purveyor's distribution system;
- (ii) Records regarding inventory information required in subsection (3)(j)(ii) of this section shall be kept for five years or for the life of the approved backflow preventer whichever is shorter; and
- (iii) Records regarding backflow incidents and annual summary reports required in subsection (3)(j)(iii) of this section shall be kept for five years.
- (b) Purveyors may maintain cross-connection control records in original form or transfer data to tabular summaries.
- (c) Purveyors may maintain records or data in any media, such as paper, film, or electronic format.
- (d) The purveyor shall complete the cross-connection control program summary report annually. Report forms and guidance on completing the report are available from the department.
- (e) The purveyor shall make all records and reports required in subsection (3)(j) of this section available to the department or its representative upon request.

(f) The purveyor shall notify the department, local administrative authority, and local health jurisdiction as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the next business day, when a backflow incident is known by the purveyor to have:

(i) Contaminated the public water system; or

(ii) Occurred within the premises of a consumer served by the purveyor.

(g) The purveyor shall:

(i) Document details of backflow incidents on a form acceptable to the department such as the backflow incident report form included in the most recent edition of the PNWS-AWWA Manual; and

(ii) Include all backflow incident report(s) in the annual cross-connection program summary report referenced in (d) of this subsection, unless otherwise requested by the department.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.02.050. 99-07-021, § 246-290-490, filed 3/9/99, effective 4/9/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-290-490, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: P.L. 99-339. 89-21-020 (Order 336), § 248-54-285, filed 10/10/89, effective 11/10/89. Statutory Authority: RCW 34.04.045. 88-05-057 (Order 307), § 248-54-285, filed 2/17/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 83-19-002 (Order 266), § 248-54-285, filed 9/8/83.]

REPEAL

The following section of Washington Administrative Code is repealed, WAC 246-290-495.

WAC 246-290-495 Public notification. (1) Required notification. The purveyor shall notify the water system users when the system:

(a) Has an MCL violation of a primary standard as described under WAC 246-290-310;

(b) Fails to comply with:

(i) Treatment technique requirements under Part 6 of this chapter or 40 CFR 141.80(d);

(ii) Monitoring requirements under WAC 246-290-300, 246-290-664, 246-290-674, or 246-290-694;

(iii) Analytical requirements of WAC 246-290-638 or chapter 246-390 WAC;

(iv) A departmental order; or

(v) A variance or exemption schedule prescribed by the state board of health;

(c) Is identified as a source of waterborne disease outbreak as determined by the department;

(d) Is issued a category red operating permit;

(e) Is issued a departmental order; or

(f) Is operating under a variance or exemption.

(2) Content. Notices shall provide:

(a) A clear, concise, and simple explanation of the violation;

(b) Discussion of potential adverse health effects and any segments of the population that may be at higher risk;

(c) Mandatory health effects information in accordance with subsection (4) of this section;

(d) A list of steps the purveyor has taken or is planning to take to remedy the situation;

(e) A list of steps the consumer should take, including advice on seeking an alternative water supply if necessary;

(f) The purveyor's name and phone number; and

(g) When appropriate, notices shall be bilingual or multilingual.

The purveyor may provide additional information to further explain the situation.

(3) Distribution.

(a) Purveyors of community and NTNC systems with violations of a primary MCL, treatment technique, or variance or exemption schedule shall provide:

(i) Newspaper notice to water system users as defined in (e) of this subsection, within fourteen days of violation;

(ii) Direct mail notice or hand delivery to all consumers served by the system within forty-five days of the violation. The department may waive the purveyor's mail or hand delivery if the violation is corrected within forty-five days. The waiver shall be in writing and made within the forty-five day period;

(iii) Notice to radio and television stations serving the area within seventy-two hours of violation of an acute coliform MCL under WAC 246-290-310 (2)(c), a nitrate MCL under WAC 246-290-310(3), occurrence of a waterborne disease outbreak or other acute violation as determined by the department; and

(iv) Repeat mail or hand delivery every three months until the violation is corrected.

(b) Purveyors of community and NTNC systems shall provide newspaper notice as defined in (e) of this subsection, to water system users within three months of the following:

(i) Violation of a monitoring requirement or testing procedure;

(ii) Receipt of a departmental order;

(iii) Receipt of a category red operating permit; or

(iv) Granting of a variance or exemption.

Purveyors shall also provide repeat notice by mail or hand delivery to all consumers served by the system every three months until the situation is corrected or for as long as the variance or exemption remains in effect.

(c) Purveyors of TNC systems shall post a notice or notify consumers by other methods authorized by the department within fourteen days of the following:

(i) Violation of a primary MCL;

(ii) Violation of a treatment technique requirement; or

(iii) Violation of a variance or exemption schedule. If the violation is acute, the department shall require posting within seventy-two hours.

(d) Purveyors of TNC systems shall post a notice or notify consumers by other methods authorized by the department within three months of the following:

(i) Violation of a monitoring requirement or testing procedure;

(ii) Receipt of a category red operating permit; or

(iii) Granting of a variance or exemption.

(e) "Newspaper notice," as used in this section, means publication in a daily newspaper of general circulation or in a weekly newspaper of general circulation if a daily newspaper does not serve the area. The purveyor may substitute a community or homeowner's association newsletter or similar periodical publication if the newsletter reaches all affected consumers within the specified time.

(f) The purveyor shall substitute a posted notice in the absence of a newspaper of general circulation or homeowner's association newsletter or similar periodical publication. The purveyor shall post the notice within the time frame specified in this subsection.

(g) The purveyor shall place posted notices in conspicuous locations and present the notices in a manner making them easy to read. Notices shall remain posted until the violation is corrected or for as long as the variance or exemption remains in effect.

(h) The purveyor of a community or NTNC water system shall give a copy of the most recent public notice for all outstanding violations to all new billing units or new hookups before or at the time water service begins.

(i) The purveyor shall provide the department with a copy of the public notification at the time the purveyor notifies the public.

(4) Mandatory language.

(a) The purveyor shall provide specific health effects language in the notice when a violation involves:

(i) A violation of a primary organic or inorganic chemical or physical MCL;

(ii) A violation of a secondary fluoride MCL;

(iii) A violation of an acute coliform MCL;

(iv) A violation of a nonacute coliform MCL;

(v) A treatment technique requirement;

(vi) Granting or continuation of exemption or variance; or

(vii) Failure to comply with a variance or exemption schedule.

(b) The purveyor shall provide specific mandatory language in its notification when the purveyor receives a category red operating permit.

(c) Required specific language is contained in department guidance.

(5) Procedure for notification of organic chemical and unregulated chemical sample results.

(a) Availability of results. After receipt of the first analysis results, the purveyor of a community or NTNC water system shall notify persons served by the system of the availability of the results and shall supply the name and telephone number of a contact person. Purveyors with surface water sources shall include a statement that additional monitoring will be conducted for three more quarters.

(i) The purveyor shall initiate notification within three months of the purveyors receipt of the first analysis results. This notification is only required one time.

(ii) Notification shall occur by any of the following methods:

(A) Inclusion in the first set of water bills issued after receipt of the results;

(B) Newspaper notice that shall run at least one day each month for three consecutive months;

(C) Direct mail;

(D) Posting for at least one week if an NTNC system; or

(E) Any other method approved by the department.

(iii) Within three months of receipt of analysis results, purveyors selling water to other public water systems shall provide copies of the analysis results to the purchasing system.

(iv) Within thirty days of receipt of analysis results, purveyors purchasing water shall make results available to their consumers. The purveyor's notification shall occur by the method outlined under (a)(ii) of this subsection.

(b) Consumer information.

(i) The purveyor shall provide consumer information within twenty-one days of receipt of confirmation sample results when:

(A) A regulated chemical is confirmed at a concentration greater than an MCL, and the level will not cause the running annual average to exceed the MCL; or

(B) The department determines that an unregulated chemical is confirmed at a level greater than a SAL.

(ii) Consumer information shall include:

(A) Name and level of chemical detected;

(B) Location where the chemical was detected;

(C) Any health effects that the chemical could cause at its present concentration;

(D) Plans for follow-up activities; and

(E) Phone number to call for further information.

(iii) Consumer information shall be distributed by any of the following methods:

(A) Notice placed in the major newspaper in the affected area;

(B) Direct mail to consumers;

(C) Posting for at least one week if an NTNC system; or

(D) Any other method approved by the department.

(6) Fluoride notification procedure.

When a primary or secondary MCL violation occurs or a variance or exemption is issued or a variance or exemption schedule is violated, the purveyor of a community water system shall send notice, including mandatory language, to:

(a) The department annually;

(b) Water system users annually; and

(c) New billing units added while the violation exists.

(7) When circumstances dictate the purveyor give a broader or more immediate notice to protect public health, the department may require the purveyor's notification by whatever means necessary.

(8) When the state board of health grants a public water system a waiver, the purveyor shall notify consumers and new billing units or new hookups before water service begins. The purveyor shall provide a notice annually and send a copy to the department.

(9) The department may give notice to the water system users as required by this section on behalf of the water purveyor. However, the purveyor remains responsible for ensuring the department's requirements are met.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.02.050. 99-07-021, § 246-290-495, filed 3/9/99, effective 4/9/99.]

WAC 246-290-500 Severability. If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this chapter, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-290-500, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 34.04.045. 88-05-057 (Order 307), § 248-54-291, filed 2/17/88.]